

REMARKS

The examiner telephoned applicants' representative and advised that the specification as originally filed did not contain a brief description of FIG. 7. The examiner requested the applicants to file an amendment to correct the issue.

In response, the Brief Description of Drawings concluding on page 9 is amended to identify FIG. 7. The statement identifying FIG. 7 is consistent with the Detailed Description, page 21, which states that "FIG. 7 illustrates a SLC block diagram 700 that provides an example of how the various components that define an SLC are related with each other and how the SLCs and SLAs may be modeled within the SLM 202."

The amendment conforms the Brief Description of Drawings to the Detailed Description. The amendment will improve readability, clarity and public accessibility of the disclosure. For all these reasons, applicants respectfully request approval and entry of the within amendment.

The present application has been allowed and the issue fee has been paid. 37 C.F.R. 1.312 permits amendment after allowance but not later than payment of the issue fee upon approval of the primary examiner without withdrawal from issue. The present application has been in prosecution for nearly eight (8) years and withdrawal from issuance at this stage, merely to enter a one-sentence formal amendment, would be manifestly unjust. If this amendment cannot be approved for any reason in its present form, applicants respectfully request entry of an Examiner's Amendment that is equivalent in form. The public interest is best served through clarity of the disclosure by amendment as stated herein.

If any applicable fee is missing or insufficient, throughout the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any applicable fees and to credit

any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

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/ChristopherJPalermo#42056/

Christopher J. Palermo, Reg. No. 42,056

2055 Gateway Place, Suite 550
San Jose, California 95110-1089
Telephone: (408) 414-1202
Facsimile: (408) 414-1076